

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend Claims 1, 4-10 and 12 as follows and add Claims 15-20:

1. (Currently amended) A device for the manual sharpening of knives and other blades by ~~means of~~ two crossed carbide plates (3a, 3b) arranged flatly over one another, comprising

[-] a shaft-shaped gripping and holding part (1) which has a smooth lower side (1a) with which the device can be placed solidly on a smooth support in use;

[-] a function part (2) at the one longitudinal end of the gripping and holding part (1) which receives the carbide plates (3a, 3b) and surrounds them with the exception of a cut-out (4) through which a V-shaped sharpening zone (5) at the crossing point of the carbide plates (3a, 3b) becomes accessible for the blade to be sharpened;

[-] two same shape carbide plates (3a, 3b) which have straight-line edge sections with which they form the V-shaped sharpening zone (5) due to their crossing, which each have at least one through-going cutout (10) and which have rotational symmetry with respect to their outer contour and with respect to the cut-outs (10);

[-] a first recess (8a) in the function part (2) into which the flat side of the one carbide plate (3a) is exchangeably inserted parallel to the smooth lower side (1a) of the gripping and holding part (1);

[-] a second recess (8b) in the function part (2) into which the flat side of the other carbide plate (3b) is exchangeably inserted parallel to the smooth lower side (1a) of the gripping and holding part (1);

[-] spigots (9) which each project as counterpieces to the at least one cut-out (10) in the carbide plates (3a, 3b) out of the base of the recesses (8a, 8b) to fix the carbide plates (3a, 3b) against the lateral positional changes;

[-] a cover part (11) insertable into the function part (2) and having a releaseable snap-latching to upwardly fix the carbide plates (3a, 3b) inserted into the recesses (8a, 8b);

[-] such a position of the recesses (8a, 8b) in the function part (2) that, by changing the carbide plates (3a, 3b) between the recesses (8a, 8b) and/or by rotation of the carbide plates (3a, 3b) in at least four-fold manner, different edge sections of the carbide plates (3a, 3b) for the V-shaped sharpening zone (5).

2. (Original) A device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the sides of the carbide plates (3a, 3b) are slightly slanted at the straight-line edge sections such that the upper edge projects slightly beyond the lower edge, with the upper edge representing the working edge.

3. (Original) A device in accordance with claim 2, wherein the slant angle amounts to approximately 6°.

4. (Currently amended) A device in accordance with ~~either claim 2 or claim 3~~, wherein the upper side is marked.

5. (Currently amended) A device in accordance with ~~any of the claims claim 2 to 4~~, wherein the at least one cut-out (10) in the carbide plates (3a, 3b) and the spigots (9) in the recesses (8a, 8b) are arranged and/or designed such that the carbide plates (3a, 3b) are not insertable into the recesses (8a, 8b) with the upper side and the lower side the wrong way round.

6. (Currently amended) A device in accordance with ~~any of claims claim 1 to 5~~, wherein the cut-outs (10) consist of two bores and, accordingly, two spigots (9) are provided per recess (8a, 8b).

7. (Currently amended) A device in accordance with ~~any of claims claim 1 to 6~~, wherein the cover part (11) has two molded tabs (12) at one side, which engage into corresponding holding slots of the function part (2), and, at the opposite side, has a snap bolt (13) which engages through an opening (14) in the function part (2) and releasably latches in it.

8. (Currently amended) A device in accordance with ~~any of claims claim 1 to 7~~, wherein an abutment (2a) is formed in the transition region from the function part (2) to the gripping and holding part (1) as a termination of its smooth lower side (1a).

9. (Currently amended) A device in accordance with ~~any of claims~~
claim 1 to 8, wherein a further function part (6) having a single carbide plate (7)
is provided at the end of the gripping and holding part (1) disposed opposite the
function part (2).

10. (Currently amended) A device in accordance with claim 9,
wherein an abutment (6a) with which the carbide plate (7) can be guided along a
blade at the angle typical for scissor blades is provided at the further function
part (6).

11. (Original) A device in accordance with claim 10, wherein the
abutment (6a) is simultaneously formed as a finger protection in the direction of
the gripping and holding part (1).

12. (Currently amended) A device in accordance with ~~any of claims~~
claim 9 to 11, wherein the single carbide plate (7) in the further function part (6)
is exchangeably pushed into a slot-like reception (15) having a width precisely
corresponding to the plate thickness and is fixed by a snap-latching part (17)
which engages over the carbide plate (7) from the front in a central, lug-like and
flush manner and of which at least one snap-lug (18) releasably latches in the
further function part (6) behind the carbide plate (7).

13. (Original) A device in accordance with claim 12, wherein the
outwardly projecting section of the snap-latching part (17) is made as an
abutment, preferably as a 90° abutment for sharpening ski edges.

14. (Original) A device for the manual sharpening of knives and other blades by means of a carbide plate which exchangeably pushed into a slot-like reception in the device body having a width precisely corresponding to the plate thickness and is fixed by a snap-latching part which engages over the carbide plate from the front in a central, lug-like and flush manner and from which at least one snap-lug releasably latches in the device body behind the carbide plate .

15. (New) A device in accordance with claim 3, wherein the upper side is marked.

16. (New) A device in accordance with claim 3, wherein the at least one cut-out (10) in the carbide plates (3a, 3b) and the spigots (9) in the recesses (8a, 8b) are arranged and/or designed such that the carbide plates (3a, 3b) are not insertable into the recesses (8a, 8b) with the upper side and the lower side the wrong way round.

17. (New) A device in accordance with claim 4, wherein the at least one cut-out (10) in the carbide plates (3a, 3b) and the spigots (9) in the recesses (8a, 8b) are arranged and/or designed such that the carbide plates (3a, 3b) are not insertable into the recesses (8a, 8b) with the upper side and the lower side the wrong way round.

18. (New) A device in accordance with claim 15, wherein the at least one cut-out (10) in the carbide plates (3a, 3b) and the spigots (9) in the recesses (8a, 8b) are arranged and/or designed such that the carbide plates (3a, 3b) are not insertable into the recesses (8a, 8b) with the upper side and the lower side the wrong way round.

19. (New) A device in accordance with claim 2, wherein the cut-outs (10) consist of two bores and, accordingly, two spigots (9) are provided per recess (8a, 8b).

20. (New) A device in accordance with claim 3, wherein the cut-outs (10) consist of two bores and, accordingly, two spigots (9) are provided per recess (8a, 8b).